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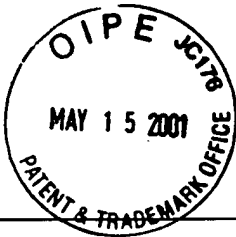
<h1>TRANSMITTAL FORM</h1> <p>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</p>	Application Number	09/721,405	
	Filing Date	November 21, 2000	
	First Named Inventor	Russell A. HOUSER	
	Group Art Unit	3731	
	Examiner Name	To Be Assigned	
Total Number Of Pages In This Submission	9	Attorney Docket No.	441742000412

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declarations <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement - 3 pages <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): 1. Form PTO-1449 - 5 pages 2. Return Receipt Postcard
Remarks: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>		<div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">           RECEIVED            MAY 17 2001            TC 3700 MAIL ROOM         </div>

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual Name	Morrison & Foerster LLP, 755 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, California 94304-1018 Johney U. Han (Registration No. 45,565)
Signature	
Date	May 11, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 11, 2001.	
 Laura Shires	

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PATENT  
Docket No. 441742000412

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*Laura Shires*  
Laura Shires

#3  
Prior Art  
S. Bryce  
5/22/01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Russell A. HOUSER et al.

Serial No.: 09/721,405

Filing Date: November 21, 2000

For: ANASTOMOTIC CONNECTOR FOR  
SUTURELESS ANASTOMOSIS  
SYSTEMS (AS AMENDED)

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: 3731

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement and/or Office Action, directed to the related application Serial Number 09/329,503, filed 6/10/1999, and, accordingly, copies are not included herewith. This protocol conforms with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) and M.P.E.P. 609(A)(2). The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
  - ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of \* is enclosed.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below; accordingly; no fee is believed to be due.
  - ☐ A fee is required. By the submission of Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) (in duplicate), Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees deemed necessary with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **441742000412**.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, an authorization to charge our deposit account, and a Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) are provided herein.

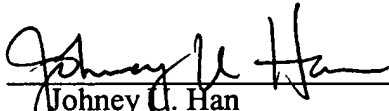
Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is to the best of my knowledge and is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **441742000412**. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: May 11, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Johnney Q. Han  
Registration No. 45,565

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